

FINANCIAL REPORT FROM MAY 31ST, 1898, TO 31ST MAY, 1899.

Cash in bank, June 1st, 1898	\$281 18
Cash on hand, June 1st, 1898	19 46
151 active members' fees at \$3	453 00
1 active member's fee at \$3, paid \$2	2 00
22 associate members' fees at \$2	44 00
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	\$799 64

DISBURSEMENTS.

Expenses of convention	\$435 14
Grant to local committee	\$200 00
F. J. Jenking, stenographer	40 00
Martel-Stewart (show cards)	5 00
Convention buttons for 1898	64 64
"Electrical News" printing account	101 50
Cuts for convention paper, and duty on cuts	20 49
Express on parcels	2 08
Telegrams	1 43

Grant to secretary	\$125 00
Postage	46 18
Express charges	26
Letter file	40
Telegrams	1 00
Exchange on cheques	3 60
Stationery and printing	19 95
Buttons and badges for 1899	12 50
Balance in bank	137 76
Balance on hand	17 85

Total\$799 64

The report was adopted, the financial statement having been duly audited.

RECEIPTS.

Cash in bank, June 1st, 1899	\$137 76
Cash on hand, June 1st, 1899	17 85
52 active members' fees at \$3	156 00
5 associate members' fees at \$2	10 00

Total\$321 61

DISBURSEMENTS.

Postage	\$ 12 30
Exchange on cheques	1 05
Stationery	55
Cash in bank, June 27th, 1899	296 76
Cash on hand, June 27th, 1899	10 35

Total\$321 61

The Committee on Legislation reported through the chairman, John Yule, that they had made a strong and successful effort to show the legislature of Ontario the righteousness of the contentions of the electric lighting companies, and to show the injustice of the provincial law as it then stood. The result is that the provisions of the Act relating to the transfer of waterworks from private corporations to municipalities are made to apply to electrical companies on equitable terms. High praise was given to James Conmee, member for West Algoma, for the patience and tact with which he handled the question, and the force with which he had stated the case to members, as well as for the fairness he had shown to those who raised objections to the bill in the public interests. The new bill, therefore, gave every security to the public and to municipalities, while safeguarding the rights and investments of the companies. The names of Donald Guthrie, Q.C., Guelph; W. D. McPherson and Edward Bayley, of Toronto; Mr. Gould, of Hamilton, and Mr. Pepler, Q.C., of Barrie, were also mentioned in connection with the bill. About fifty companies contributed to the fund for the defence of the electrical interests, a statement of which was appended, the names of the Royal Electric Co. and the Packard Electric Co. being mentioned for their generous and unsolicited donations to the fund. The committee called special attention to two clauses in the new Act. One of these clauses provided that companies in cases of

disagreement with the municipalities may have the contract price for street lighting fixed by arbitration, thus removing the complaint that lighting companies could make a municipality pay an unreasonable price where there was no competition. The other clause was that fixing the price of residential lighting by arbitration also. While there seemed to be every probability that the principle of the Conmee bill would be maintained it was desirable that a fund should be created by annual contributions from the electric light and power companies and allied interests for the purpose of watching future legislation affecting their business. The committee had paid for legal services \$1,854.87, and for printing, etc., \$171.90, and had a balance in hand of \$75.67. The subscriptions to the fund amounted to \$1,955, which with the balance in hand from the previous year made a total of \$2,102.44, disposed of as above specified.

Mr. Dion, in moving the adoption of the report, said this committee had done an enormous amount of work, and their zeal was beyond all praise.

P. G. Gossler presented the report of the committee appointed to confer with the underwriters of the province of Quebec as to the regulations governing electrical installations. The question of building regulations and inspection of wiring was discussed with the secretary of the Board of Underwriters and a special committee of the same, but no understanding could be arrived at. The underwriters held that the cost of the system of inspection would be too great for them to undertake. They had provided rules for electrical installations, and they considered that the electric companies should in their own interests see that these rules are carried out. The committee, however, recommended that the work be continued in the hope of bringing about a more efficient system of inspection. After discussion it was decided that the committee be maintained, the following being members: P. G. Gossler (chairman), Montreal; A. A. Dion, Ottawa, Ald. Geo. W. Sadler, Montreal, and Andrew Sangster, Sherbrooke, Que. In connection with this report a letter was read from Ald. Sadler, explaining that until the amendments to the city charter had been adopted it was considered advisable to defer the proposed building regulations, of which the electrical regulations would form a part.

Mr. Dion wished to place on record the sense of loss sustained by the association in the death of F. H. Badger of Quebec.

J. A. Kammerer, chairman of the Statistical Committee, reported that the committee had during the year gathered a quantity of information on the electrical industries of Canada, but as the data could not be completed in any department it was desirable to continue the committee for another year under the same personnel. The report was adopted.

J. J. Wright, chairman of the Committee on Meter Inspection, reported that there were no special developments during the year calling for a formal report.

Mr. Dion said it was desirable to take up the question of the Government regulations on meters, which might be amended so as to allow of the breaking of the seals of meters under certain restrictions. The cost of meter inspection is quite an item with some companies, and the privilege of adjusting meters on the premises where the difficulty was of a simple nature would save much expense.

The president appointed the following as a committee to nominate officers for the ensuing year: Messrs Cary, Carroll, Wright (Toronto), Yule and Wyse.

Mr. Dion then read his paper on "Meters and Meter Rates," which will be found on another page.

Mr. Gossler, in opening the discussion on the paper, said that in testing meters in series they were apt to run slow owing to induced current, and great care was necessary with meters having jeweled bearings. There was a great difference in the behavior of meters. Some would start on two-tenths of one per cent. of the load, but the proper registration of a meter under half a load entirely depends upon jeweled bearings.

Mr. Fisk said his experience was that the Thompson recording watt meter ran slow on a light load. This was due to friction of the parts, but he found that if an auxiliary coil was put on this friction would be overcome.

In reply to Mr. Wright (Renfrew), Mr. Gossler said the meter records were kept by a sort of card catalogue, each of which gave the history of a meter for a year.